

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraphs on page 1, after line 7:

Such an impact protection system is known from U.S. Patent 6,283,508 B1, for example, and includes an impact element that is movable by a driving device out of a passive position and into an active position in the direction of the vehicle occupants. This impact element may be formed by a lid of a passenger-side glove compartment. This impact lid cooperates with the driving device so that a stowage compartment of the glove compartment does not move along into the active position when the impact lid is deployed, but instead it remains in its starting position.

Another impact protection device is known from EP 0 885 783 A1, in which the impact element may also be formed by a lid of a passenger-side glove compartment. The driving device, which is formed by an inflatable airbag, is also arranged so that in the event of a crash the impact lid can be adjusted suddenly into the active position together with a stowage container of the glove compartment.

Please add the following paragraph on page 2, after line 20:

According to this invention, the glove compartment has a stowage container which is adjustable by means of the driving device of the impact lid together with the impact lid itself between a retracted closed position, in which the stowage container is closed and in which the impact lid is in its passive position, and an extended open position, in which the stowage container is accessible from the interior of the vehicle. With this combination of features, the driving device has the additional function of permitting an increase in comfort. With this invention, the driving device can move the impact lid together with the stowage container when

the glove compartment is operated, whereas to activate the impact cover, the driving device extends the impact cover independently of the stowage container. As a result of this measure, the impact lid can be extended especially rapidly in the event of a crash, because the mass of the stowage container and the contents accommodated therein must not be moved along with the lid when the impact cover is activated.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 7-13, with the following:

Figs. 1 through 4 are perspective views of the inventive impact protection system ~~with~~
illustrating different positions of an impact element,

Fig. 5 is a perspective view ~~like that~~ similar to those in Figs. 1 through 4, but from another direction of observation with a view of a driving device of the impact protection system.

Please replace the paragraph on page 10, lines 1-13, with the following:

Since a contact sensor is ~~are~~ expedient for activation of the impact lid 2, this may also be used in adjusting the impact lid 2 into its preventive position to stop the impact lid 2 and prevent its further extension in the event of a collision with an obstacle. The same is of course also true of extension of the impact lid 2 together with the dust container 7 when the impact lid 2 moves against an obstacle before reaching the open position of the dust container 7. Additionally or alternatively, a collision of the impact lid 2 with an obstacle can also be detected on the basis of the power consumption and/or torque uptake by an electric motor that extends the impact lid 2 by means of a suitable torque control and/or electric current control.